

CLAIMS:

1. An at least partially transparent touch-sensitive switching system comprising at least two electrodes provided with means for applying a voltage thereto and spaced from each other by a layer comprising at least one region that optically changes by applying the voltage, and at least one region comprising a piezoelectric material generating a voltage when applying pressure thereto.
2. The touch-sensitive switching system of claim 1 wherein at least one of the electrodes is transparent.
- 10 3. The touch-sensitive switching system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the piezoelectric material is a piezoelectric polymer.
4. The touch-sensitive switching system of any one of claims 1-3 wherein the regions that optically change by applying the voltage are regions comprising a fluid or a dispersion of particles in a fluid.
- 15 5. The touch-sensitive switching system of claim 4 wherein the fluid comprises liquid crystalline molecules.
- 20 6. The touch-sensitive switching system of claim 4 wherein the particles are electrostatically charged.
7. The touch-sensitive switching system of claim 6 wherein the electrostatically charged particles have a color that is in contrast to the color of the fluid, or wherein the 25 particles are dispersed in a colorless fluid and the dispersion comprises at least two different sorts of electrostatically charged particles, whereof the colors are in contrast to each other.

8. The touch-sensitive switching system of any one of claims 1-7 wherein the regions that optically change by applying the voltage are embedded in a matrix of the piezoelectric material.

5 9. The touch-sensitive switching system of any one of claims 6-8 wherein the dispersion of electrostatically charged particles in a fluid is enclosed in a capsule of a polymeric material.

10. 10. An electro-optical display comprising the touch-sensitive switching system of any one of claims 1-9.

11. 11. The display of claim 10 wherein each region that optically changes by applying the voltage corresponds to one pixel, and wherein each pixel is a pressure-sensitive pixel.